



THE PICATINNY VOICE



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October 21, 2011

Picatinny Arsenal scores big at AUSA awards

PEO Ammo captures Acquisition Excellence Award; ARDEC is Large Laboratory of the Year



Chris Grassano, (center) chief of staff for Program Executive Office Ammunition, accepts the Army Acquisition Excellence Award on behalf of the M855A1 Team, which provided an Enhanced Performance Round for Soldiers that is the most technically advanced small caliber cartridge ever developed. At left, Lt. Gen. William N. Phillips, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition Logistics and Technology). At right, Heidi Shyu, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology.

Enhanced Performance Round underwent exhaustive testing

BY AUDRA CALLOWAY
Picatinny Public Affairs

The M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round (EPR) team from the Program Executive Office for Ammunition earned top honors at the U.S. Army Acquisition Corps Annual Awards Ceremony Oct. 9 in Alexandria, Va.

The ceremony pays tribute to the uniformed and civilian professionals who work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide combatant commanders and their Soldiers with the weapons and equipment they need to execute decisive, full-spectrum operations in support of the overseas contingency operations.

The M855A1 EPR team won an Army Acquisition Excellence Award in the category of Equipping and Sustaining our Soldier's Systems. Seventeen teams were nominated in this award category.

The evening awards ceremony was hosted by Heidi Shyu, Acting Assistant

Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology; and Lt. Gen. William (Bill) Phillips, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology.

Chris Grassano, PEO Ammunition Chief of Staff accepted the award on behalf of PEO Ammunition. He is also the former Project Manager Maneuver Ammunition Systems (PM MAS), the organization that led the M855A1 efforts.

"I was honored to accept the Equipping and Sustaining our Soldier's Systems Award on behalf of the EPR team and would like to thank the many dedicated personnel in PM MAS, ARDEC and ARL (Army Research Laboratory) for their significant and lasting contributions to making the program successful and getting the round into the hands of Soldiers," Grassano said.

See **SMALL CALIBER**, Page 3



Dr. Gerardo Melendez, (second from right) Director of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center, holds the award for Laboratory of the Year (large lab) together with Heidi Shyu, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. From left, Lt. Gen. William N. Phillips, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), and Marilyn Miller Freeman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research and Technology).

ARDEC lab award a crowning stroke in series of recent achievements

BY TIMOTHY RIDER
Picatinny Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center at Picatinny Arsenal was selected as US Army's Laboratory of the Year (large lab category) in a review of the Army lab system by the Army's top research and development executive, earning the distinction for three consecutive competitions.

Marilyn Miller Freeman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research and Technology), presented the award Oct. 9 to ARDEC Director Dr. Gerardo Melendez at the Army Acquisition Corps Annual Award Ceremony in Alexandria, Va.

Since reviews of large labs by the Army Laboratory Assessment Group (ALAG) are now conducted every other year, ARDEC will now hold the award until at least 2013.

It received the honor in 2008 (when large labs reviews were conducted annually) 2009 and 2011, meaning ARDEC

stands to hold the honor for six consecutive years.

"Large" Army labs have more than 850 personnel. The Engineer Research and Development Center, part of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, won the large lab management award as part of this year's review.

"It takes a team of dedicated personnel working diligently, passionately, and consistently to achieve the excellence for which these organizations has been recognized with these awards," Freeman said when the award winners were announced earlier this year.

Freeman is responsible for the entirety of the Army's Research and Technology program, spanning 16 Laboratories and Research, Development and Engineering Centers, with more than 12,000 scientists and engineers and a yearly budget of nearly \$2 billion.

When ARDEC director Dr. Gerardo

See **ARDEC**, Page 3

Picatinny Ten-Milers exude 'esprit de corps' in race

BY AUDRA CALLOWAY

Picatinny Public Affairs

Twenty-four Picatinny community members traded their military uniforms and business attire for sneakers and running clothes during the 27th Army Ten-Miler Oct. 9 in Washington, D.C.

The Picatinnyans were part of 30,000 Army supporters who participated in the event, which began at the Pentagon, circled a scenic course through D.C., and then concluded at the Pentagon starting point.

"It's an esprit de corps builder to show that we're all Army strong," Picatinny Senior Commander and Army Ten-Miler participant Brig. Gen. Jonathan Maddux said of the race. "It helps culminate the pinnacle of our Army values and brings us all together. The Army has a show of force of 30,000 people out here. That's tremendous."

This was the seventh Army Ten-Miler for Maddux.

In addition to building group morale, the Army's annual 10-mile race promotes the Army, supports fitness goals, and enhances community relations, according to the Army Ten-Miler website.

Picatinny was well-represented at the annual event by three eight-member teams—one military team, one civilian team and one mixed team.

"The civilian and military teams were competitive teams—we had runoffs and the slots were filled based on who had the best times," Maddux explained.

The mixed team was selected based on a lottery drawing that was open to everyone on the installation.

"The third team was a lottery team to encourage other runners who may have less than speedy times to run with us. It was a competitive process and those that



Teams from Picatinny Arsenal participated Oct. 9 in the Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C., the Army's premier racing event.

didn't make the teams entered the lottery along with everyone else who wanted to run but didn't want to be competitive," Maddux explained.

In preparation of the event, Picatinny held practices every Monday and then had two run-off races on Saturday to compete and select the two teams.

David DeCandia, a Contracting Officer for the Army Contracting Command – Picatinny, qualified for the Picatinny Civilian Team.

This was DeCandia's first Army Ten Miler. Picatinny Army Ten-Miler team organizer Maj. Chris Conley invited DeCandia to try out for the Ten-Miler after the Picatinny 5K Armed Forces Day run in May.

"(Maj. Conley) invited anyone running the 5K who wanted to participate in the Army Ten-Miler to join him at 6 a.m. every Monday for training runs,"

DeCandia said.

"I decided to give it a try, and I really began to enjoy it. Once I got to know the other runners and built that camaraderie, I felt compelled to run the actual race with them as a team."

"I thought the race was very well organized, and I truly enjoyed myself," he added.

"The supporters were terrific, and it was a pleasure to be able to run the streets of our nation's capitol city without having to dodge traffic. It was really cool to see the wounded warriors out there with us, and it was really awesome taking in the sights and landmarks of the city."

The 10-mile road race is one of the largest 10-mile races in the world and is the Army's premier running event. Military and civilian runners come from all over the world to take part in this annual tradition. The Army Ten-Miler

is produced by the United States Army Military District of Washington and all proceeds go to the Army's Morale, Welfare and Recreation fund.

Picatinny race participants include:

MILITARY TEAM

Maj. Joshua Keena, Maj. Vinson Morris, Staff Sgt. David Sperry, Capt. Mario Barrett, Maj. Matthew Johnson, Maj. Christopher Conley, Lt. Col. Herb Koehler, Maj. Eric Timmerman

CIVILIAN TEAM

Michael Bozzelli, Elizabeth Maddux, Clede Oneal, Keith Luhmann, Charles Castiglioni, David Decandia, Christopher Therkorn, Mark Greenfeld

LOTTERY TEAM

Lt. Col. Kenneth Lemire, Sgt. 1st Class Sean Sandeen, Brig. Gen. Jonathan Maddux, Peter Kuchinski, Lindsey Benjamin, Beverly Hawkswell, Patty Lyon, Marisol Maccheyne

THE PICATINNY VOICE



Picatinny Commanding General
Brig. Gen. Jonathan A. Maddux

Chief, Picatinny
Public Affairs Office **Peter J. Rowland**
Editor..... **Ed Lopez**
Assistant Editor..... **Jason Kaneshiro**
Public Affairs Specialist **Timothy Rider**
Public Affairs Specialist **Audra Calloway**
Public Affairs Specialist **Eric Kowal**
Photographers..... **Todd Mozes, Erin Usawicz**

Public Affairs Office

Attn: RDAR-AO, The Picatinny Voice,
93 Ramsey Ave., Picatinny, NJ 07806-5000

(973) 724-6366, DSN 880-6366, e-mail picavoice@conus.army.mil

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All manuscripts, photos or artwork may not be returned without prior coordination. Digital images should be submitted at a resolution of at least 200 pixels per inch.

Due to space limitations, the editor reserves the right to edit submitted articles. Contributions can be sent by e-mail to picavoice@conus.army.mil.

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Submissions must be signed or received via e-mail through your own account to be considered for publication, but writer's names may be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed are those of each author and not an official expression of the Department of the Army or the Command.

The PicatinnyVoice reserves the right to select, reject or edit letters and articles to meet space constraints, achieve clarity or for propriety considerations.

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Small caliber EPR most thoroughly tested in history

Continued from Page 1

"The EPR team has equipped our forces with a performance advantage to overcome battlefield challenges. In addition, the team is now fully engaged in applying their technical advancements and lessons learned to additional ammunition categories. This is a technological change that will eventually touch every warfighter from every Service for generations to come."

Brig. Gen. Jonathan Maddux, PEO Ammunition and Picatinny Senior Commander, also extended his congratulations to the EPR team.

"I'm extremely proud of the tremendous efforts of our M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round Team," Maddux said.

"This team has provided our Soldiers with a decisive edge over our adversaries by developing, exhaustively testing and then fielding the Army's new EPR 5.56 mm to forces," the general added.

"The M855A1 EPR responds to our Army's need for environmental sustainability at our ranges by eliminating lead, while at the same time offering breakthrough performance capabilities."

SMALL ROUND, BIG IMPACT

"It's something that's small, and you may think 'How important is this?'" said Phillips of the M855A1 EPR during a panel on the forum, "Responsible and Agile Modernization for the Force of Decisive Action." The forum was at the Association of the United States Army conference in Washington D.C. Oct. 11.

"This round is so important with what it does down-range with our Soldiers. They knew all about it," Phillips said.

The EPR, which has an environmentally-friendly copper core instead of the traditional lead, has been getting favorable reviews from Soldiers since it first deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom in June 2010.

While the M855 also has a steel penetrator hidden in the tip of the jacket, the M855A1's penetrator is almost twice as heavy, sharper, and exposed—a combination that produces better performance.

The M855A1's bullet design shows how improving a previously hazardous material can also provide extremely beneficial performance improvements.

While the EPR is more environmentally friendly, the biggest plus of the M855A1 enhanced performance round is the consistency it brings to the fight—more so than the 5.56mm M855 round it is designed to replace.



There are three main areas in which the M855A1 round excels: soft-target consistency, hard-target penetration, and the extended range at which it maintains these performance improvements.

Army officials say the earlier M855 is a good round, but it is "yaw dependant." Like all bullets, it wobbles when it travels along its trajectory. Its effectiveness depends on its yaw angle when it hits a target.

Not so with the M855A1. The EPR is not yaw-dependant and delivers the same effectiveness in a soft target no matter its yaw angle.

Overall, the Army fired more than one million rounds to ensure the new cartridge met all expectations, making it the most thoroughly tested small caliber round ever fielded in U.S. history.

The M855A1 is tailored for use in the M-4 weapon system [Colt M4 Carbine and Colt M4A1 Carbine/SBR (Short Barreled Rifle) platforms].

But it also improves the performance of the M-16 [M16 assault rifle] and M-249 [FN M249 SAW/LMG] families of weapons.

The M855A1 team has also been awarded a David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award for 2011. The David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award is the Department of Defense's highest acquisition award.

It is given to DOD civilians and/or military organizations, groups and teams who have made highly significant contributions or demonstrated exemplary innovations and best practices in the defense acquisition process.

The David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award will be presented during the PEO/SYSCOM Conference on Nov. 1.

PEO AMMO ACQUISITION NOMINEES

In addition to the M855A1 EPR team, seven other PEO Ammunition teams and individuals were nominated for acquisition awards:

Individual Sustainment Award: Robert N. Muth
Equipping and Sustaining our Soldier's Systems: Accelerated Precision Mortar Initiative Team

Secretary of the Army Project Manager of the Year Award: Col. John Scott Turner, Jr

Secretary of the Army Product Manager of the Year Award: Lt. Col. Michael Milner

Secretary of the Army Acquisition Director of the Year Award at the Colonel Level: Col. Jeffrey Wilson

Secretary of the Army Acquisition Director of the Year Award at the Lieutenant Colonel Level: Lt. Col. Christopher Seacord

Army Life Cycle Logistician of the Year Award: Alan Galonski

(C. Todd Lopez contributed to this article.)

ARDEC Nominees Army Acquisition Awards

Individual Sustained Achievement

David Carrier

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

David Jeffress

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command,
U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center

Robert Washburn

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command,
U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Command

Equipping and Sustaining our Soldier's Systems

Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Capabilities Insertion Program

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command,
U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Command

Information Enabled Army

Caiman Command and Control On-the-Move

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command
Semantic Mediation for Army Reasoning and Teamwork
U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command,
Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center

Transforming the Way We Do Business

Capability Assessment of End-to-End Underbody Blast Modeling

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

ARDEC Lab award represents consecutive recognition

Continued from Page 1

Melendez announced the laboratory win to the Picatinny workforce, he noted that ARDEC was recently recognized as winner of six out of 10 Army Greatest Inventions for 2010—its best showing yet—and 13 ARDEC employees also had also just been selected for Research & Development Achievement (RDA) Awards.

"It is no coincidence that successes like the Army Greatest Inventions and RDA Awards contribute immensely to this most recent achievement, along with the many stellar people and teams who throughout the year have been recognized by warfighters and organizations outside of ARDEC," Melendez said.

"What keeps repeating is a theme of innovation that makes a real difference for the warfighters in harm's way who deserve nothing less than our very best."

The periodic reviews are done to "check the health" of the Army's lab system, said

Brad Sampson, an ARDEC engineer who earlier this year led the effort of preparing information for the written application submission for ARDEC.

"The assessment team wanted us to show them our technical prowess," said Sampson.

The team included distinguished science and technology experts from academia, industry and government.

During the site visit by the ALAG, Melendez briefed the team on ARDEC's mission, core competencies, products, outreach and customer relationships.

"A lot of our people get involved," said Sampson. "They want to participate and show their programs in a good light. People here are proud of what they do for the Army and the warfighter."

"Each year we want to get a little bit better," he added. "We have to keep improving."

In its application for Laboratory of the

Year, ARDEC highlighted three of its most promising initiatives in research, development and management.

It highlighted explosive inks as promising research. Explosive inks allow for precise application of explosives in a scale much smaller than previously achievable.

ARDEC is exploring the technology by which explosives are safely armed and initiated. These explosive inks are being used in ARDEC's micro-mechanical 'safe and arm' systems being developed for the next generation of fuzes.

Many currently fielded armament systems leverage technology born in the era of mechanical watches as a means of controlling explosive initiation mechanisms, said Brian Fuchs, who leads development of explosive inks.

As the mechanical production base shrinks, ARDEC engineers seek to pioneer production techniques for new weapon systems by integrating printed

energetics with printed electronics. This approach is based on the thriving electronics industry, which holds the promise that development times and cost of new weapons systems can be significantly reduced.

ARDEC also highlighted insensitive munitions as a promising development initiative. Insensitive munitions are less likely to trigger accidental explosions.

As a management initiative, ARDEC highlighted Innovative Developments Everyday (IDEA) at ARDEC.

The IDEA initiative teaches personnel the skills needed to develop good ideas into products that warfighters can use with innovative problem solving and obtaining patents.

The program also provides information technology resources, prototyping equipment; collaboration space equipped with reading material. It also designates personnel as innovation mentors.



Photo by Todd Mozes

BRONZE STAR

Brig. Gen. Jonathan A. Maddux, Picatinny Senior Commander and Program Executive Officer for Ammunition, presents Col. Steven F. Cummings, Project Manager Close Combat Systems, with a Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service as the PEO Ammunition Forward Representative in Afghanistan from Feb. 25 through Aug. 10.

Cummings led the training, fielding and sustainment of

PEO Ammunition products, to include critical Improvised Explosive Device-Defeat systems, across the Combined Joint Operations Area - Afghanistan. These vital items included SPARK II rollers and XM7 Spider Area Denial Systems, among others.

In addition, Cummings oversaw the performance of more than 230 Department of the Army civilians and service representatives across the CJOA-A.



19 ARDEC employees receive awards

Picatinny Public Affairs

Nineteen Picatinny Arsenal employees have been named in the 2010 Department of the Army Research and Development Achievement Awards for their contributions to Soldiers today and tomorrow.

A total of 91 Army scientists and engineers received the award out of 12,700 personnel throughout the Army who were eligible.

"These recipients reflect the great diversity of talent and expertise within the Army laboratory system that supports the future capabilities of our Soldiers," said Marilyn Miller Freeman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research and Technology).

The award-winning employees work at the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC).

In announcing the awards to the workforce, ARDEC Director Dr. Gerardo Melendez said the winners distinguished themselves through their demonstrated technical excellence or leadership.

"Their pioneering work and

dedication in basic research and technology development promise to improve the Army's technical capabilities and enhance our nation's defense," Melendez said.

Robert Dillon was one of four Army civilians selected in the Leadership category.

Of the 19 winners from ARDEC, Ernie Baker won awards for two separate technical category achievements.

Earlier this year, Baker was elevated to the rank of senior research scientist.

Melendez will be presenting the awards during an upcoming town hall.

Here are the award winners:

Achievement Award for Leadership Excellence 2011

Applications of advanced Armaments Design, Analysis and Manufacturing Technology:

Robert E. Dillon

Department of the Army Research & Development Achievement Award for Technical Excellence 2011

Jet Disruptor Technology for Insensitive Munitions:

James Pham
Gregory Stunzenas
Tan Vuong
Ernest Baker

New Technology for the Mitigation of Medium caliber Warhead Cook-Off Response:

Ernest Baker
Nausheen Al-Shehab
David G. Pfau

Large Caliber Cannon Electronic Thermal Warning Device:

Adam D. Blot
Mario Milanese
Tyler E. Bellamy
Stephen L. Robertson

Printed Green Flexible Detonator:

Brian Fuchs
Daniel Schmidt
Anne Marie Petrock
James L. Zunino III
Emily Cordaro

Soldier Smartphone Effects Application:

Ketula Patel
Gregory Blair
Thomas Maroulis

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Perez receives engineering award at conference

Picatinny Public Affairs

Samuel Perez was recognized as one of the 2011 HENAAC Military and Civilian Honorees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics during the 23rd Annual HENAAC Conference Oct. 6-8 in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Perez is branch chief, Illumination and Smoke Mortar Cartridges, at the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) here.

ARDEC Director Dr. Ger-

rardo Melendez presented the award.

"His efforts have led to the research, development, production and fielding of new capabilities for the warfighter," Melendez said.

"One of his many key milestones includes his leading of the first of its kind interactive Infrared Illum Mortar Cartridges CD-ROM, which is being used to train infantry units."

Perez thanked his family and Army colleagues for his opportunity to the serve the country.

"Today, I don't celebrate what I receive but what I have given to others using my talents and abilities through my work and church," Perez said.

HENAAC, formerly the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference, is now called "Great Minds in STEM."

Last year, Perez received the 2010 LATINA Style Distinguished Service Award for his support of the DoD mission as well as serving as a role model in his agency and the community.



Dr. Gerardo Melendez presents Picatinny Arsenal engineer Samuel Perez with his award from HENAAC (Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference).



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The Picatinny Public Affairs Office invites you to friend PEO Ammo, ask questions, leave comments and interact via our social media sites at:

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Navy technicians hustle to complete critical repairs

Picatinny-based experts support Medal of Honor ceremony with due haste

U.S. Navy Public Affairs

INDIAN HEAD, Md. Ron Hoehn and Rich Moore are accustomed to meeting immediate support requests to repair gun systems.

However, on the evening of Sept. 15, 2011, they received a special and unusual request from the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C.

They needed immediate support to fix one of their ceremonial Mk11 cannons.

Repairing a ceremonial cannon normally doesn't rise to the top of a priority list, but this day carried an air of urgency and importance.

The next day, the Marines would honor Sgt. Dakota Meyer as the recipient of the United States' most prestigious tribute, the Medal of Honor.

Hoehn and Moore are technicians with the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division Guns Division, from the command's Picatinny Arsenal detachment,

On Sept. 8, 2009, near the village of Ganjgal, Afghanistan, Meyer repeatedly charged through heavy enemy fire in an attempt to save three of his fellow Marines and a Navy Corpsman who were part of Meyer's unit.

Though all four men died in that action,



Photo by Erin Usawicz

Ron Hoehn replaces a firing pin for an MK11 saluting cannon while Rich Moore braces the breechblock. Hoehn and Moore, gun systems technicians from Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division's Picatinny Detachment, made an early five-hour drive on Sept. 16 to Washington, D.C. to repair a Mk11 cannon that was used during a ceremony at Marine Corps Barracks honoring Sgt. Dakota Meyer. Meyer earned the Medal of Honor for heroic actions on Sept. 8, 2009, near the village of Ganjgal, Afghanistan.

Meyer helped recover their bodies while also assisting several wounded Afghan soldiers to safely evacuate.

When Hoehn and Moore heard about the Marine's request from their supervisor, they immediately went to work.

"There was no question we were going to help," Hoehn said. "We wanted to go right away."

That evening, the two men gathered enough materials to effectively repair about 95 percent of a Mk11 breech assembly.

Based upon the information they and their supervisor had gathered from Marines at the Barracks, they were reasonably sure the firing pin had malfunctioned. Yet, past experience taught them to be overly prepared.

Both men drove from Picatinny Arsenal to Washington the next morning. Once Hoehn and Moore got to the Barracks, they were able to repair what proved to be a faulty firing pin in about a half hour.

The importance of the ceremony wasn't

lost on either man.

"It was exciting and a real honor to help," Hoehn said. "What Sgt. Meyer did was amazing."

Moore, a 24-year career Navy veteran, worked extensively with Marines on amphibious ships. He said it was nice to support a ceremony with such a high profile, yet also saw it in a different perspective.

"Spending upwards of eight hours of my time to do this was insignificant to what this young man did for his country," Moore said. "He deserved a perfect ceremony."

With a test fire, Hoehn and Moore ensured that the gun worked properly. They inspected two other gun mounts and as a courtesy performed some corrosion control work.

They also stayed for the afternoon drill, which Hoehn described as an awesome experience. "It literally raised the hair on my arms," he said.

Moore said the trip wasn't unusual. "This is typical of what we do all the time," he noted.

"It's one of the reasons we are here; to provide rapid support to the fleet when needed."

The ceremony was the first Medal of Honor ceremony at the barracks since the Vietnam era. Meyer is the first living Marine to receive the Medal of Honor since that time. President Barack Obama presented Meyer with the Medal of Honor on Sept. 15 at a White House ceremony.

Looking Back ... At Picatinny



BY PATRICK J. OWENS

ARDEC Historian

On Oct. 18, the Picatinny Detachment of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division, opened its new facilities in Building 3356.

The location is appropriate. Most buildings numbered above 3000 date from the times of the Lake Denmark Naval Ammunition Depot, 1891-1945, or the Navy Air Rocket Test Station, 1946-1960.

The accompanying photo shows one of the earlier Navy constructions, the depot's administrative office, now Building 3010. Judging from the clothing, it dates from not long after the building went up in 1902.

The building suffered damage in the 1926 explosion. The rebuilt and remodeled structure is twice as wide as the original and does not have the bay windows shown here.

The building to the right is gone, but the smokestack in the background belongs to the still standing Building 3013, once the Navy's powerhouse.

Army civilian workforce development on track

Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- In the last year, the Army has moved closer to transforming its civilian workforce of more than 320,000 employees.

Currently, the Army Career Tracker, or ACT, is available to some 50,000 civilian employees. The online tool is designed to integrate training and education into one website.

The tool allows an employee and leadership to track their careers, as well as monitor education and training resources.

During a lunch for Army civilians at the 2011 Association of the United States Army Annual meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C., Under Secretary of the Army Joseph W. Westphal highlighted some of the progress made toward some short-term goals that he laid out a year earlier at the same event.

Included in those goals, Westphal said, was mapping civilian employees to a career program and also developing a "scalable hiring process proof-of-concept" to reducing hiring times for civilian employees.

So far, about 50,000 civilians have been mapped to one of 31 career programs and there is a target to have 100 percent mapped to a career program under ACT by Sept. 30, 2012.

To speed up civilian hiring, the Army conducted a "hiring reform beta test" aimed at reducing timelines for hiring actions.

"We invested in civilian employee professional development with a talent management program for GS-15s and aligned the SES and senior civilian management organizations," Westphal

said. "We have also developed the Army career tracker, an online tool for tracking employee skills and training requirements. The ACT will help employees and their supervisors try and navigate a roadmap of professional success."

Westphal said that progress in civilian workforce transformation "has not been easy," and that transformation is still "embryonic."

The under secretary said studies have shown the Army has to improve how it hires civilians, manages civilian careers, and trains and develops leaders. Additionally, he said, the Army must adapt the workforce to changing national requirements.

"The primary goal [of civilian workforce transformation] is to ensure that every civilian that comes into the Army has a career path," Westphal said. "And that career path can be tracked, that people will be able to receive education training and development in those career paths so they can grow in the Army and provide greater expertise in their jobs."

Developing education for civilian employees, something similar to what is available for Soldiers, is also critical, he said.

"If you're a Soldier today, whether you are a noncommissioned officer or an officer, the Army invests a significant amount of money in your education," he said. "We've got probably the best educated military in the world. We need to do the same thing for our civilians. Putting money into that in a tight economy is going to be a struggle—but I am going to make sure we do the best we can."

FIREPOWER SIDE by SIDE

A new course at the Armament University aims to help engineers improve U.S. weapons by comparing them to the foreign small arms used by enemy fighters. Comparisons include grenade launchers, machine guns and rifles.

Story by Audra Calloway

While the M4 may be the standard issue rifle for U.S. Soldiers, the enemy fire our military receives from insurgents comes from foreign small arms, such as the Soviet AK47.

To help Army engineers understand the foreign weapons used against our Soldiers, the Armament University (AU) here recently rolled out a new course to teach them how U.S. and foreign weapons differ so that engineers can improve U.S. small arms systems.

The course, "Compare/Contrast U.S. vs. Foreign Weapons," was from Sept. 26-30. The next course is tentatively scheduled for March 2012.

The Armament University is part of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) at Picatinny Arsenal.

"Unlike past classes that have focused on one or the other, this will be the first time that the weapons are looked at side by side," said Matt Stracco, an AU education and training technician.

"Weapon specific strengths, weaknesses, operating systems and history were discussed.

"By understanding the weapon systems the enemy has and how they are likely to employ them and why, we hope to equip our engineers with the knowledge



Photo by Erin Usawicz

necessary to defeat those systems, while improving our own," Stracco said.

In addition to Picatinny engineers, ARDEC employees from Rock Island, Ill., and Navy personnel attended the class.

The initial course was taught by instructor and armorer trainer Matt Babb from Long Mountain Outfitters in Henderson, Nev.

"This class compares our weapon systems against their counterparts from the Eastern Bloc nations," said Babb, who explained that when developing weapons, Army engineers should always keep the Soldier and his fighting environment in mind.

"The Soldier is who you're designing for. Give them something robust, serviceable something that's not going to break down," Babb said.

"Most of the knowledge new engineers have is from technical manuals or talking with the units. So a class like this where we get to get our hands on the weapons is phenomenal," said Russell Adams, an electrical engineer who works in the ARDEC Fire Control Systems and Technology Directorate, Small Unit Combat Systems Division.

"Before this class, I



Photo by Todd Mozes



Photo by Erin Usawicz



Photo by Todd Mozes

never had an opportunity to disassemble the guns and it's nice to have an understanding of the capabilities—how it's designed, maintained and how it works."

The class builds a great foundation and base knowledge of understanding the weapon systems, Adams said.

"It helps us perform our jobs better and exposes us to things we wouldn't have been exposed to," he continued.

"To understand the design of the weapon, we can look at their strengths and weaknesses and how they've been developed over time.

"You can look at the weapons short-

comings and strengths to develop better, more reliable capabilities of our own."

The course compared the following weapons:

Day 1: assault rifles

M16/M4 vs. AK47

Day 2: grenade launchers

MK19 vs. AGS 17

Day 3: squad level machine guns

M249 SAW vs. RPD

Day 4: heavy machine gun

M240B vs. PKM

Day 5: sniper rifle

M110 SASS vs. Dragunov



Photo by Todd Mozes



During a change of management ceremony Oct. 6, William Sanville, the acting outgoing Project Manager for Maneuver Ammunition Systems, passes the PM MAS colors to the Program Executive Officer for Ammunition, Brig. Gen. Jonathan A. Maddux, as the incoming Project Manager, Col. Paul Hill, looks on.

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SABOR!

ARDEC held its Hispanic Heritage Celebration Oct. 13 to coincide with National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.

The event celebrates the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

Photos by Todd Mozes



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A man in a black long-sleeved shirt and black shorts is running up a large set of concrete stairs in a stadium. The stairs are wide and made of light-colored concrete. The man is seen from behind, and his shadow is cast on the stairs. The background shows the upper tiers of the stadium seating, which are empty.

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Picatinny reaps awards for Greatest Inventions



M240L 7.62mm Lightweight Medium Machine Gun: The new machine gun reduces the weight of the existing M240B without compromising reliability. Army photo

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ARDEC, PEO Ammunition, PEO Soldier underscore warfighter focus

BY AUDRA CALLOWAY
Picatinny Public Affairs

Innovating. Elegant simplicity. Ease of use. Army senior science leadership used these words to describe this year's 2010 Army Top Ten Greatest Inventions during an awards ceremony Oct. 11 in Washington, D.C.

Picatinny teams swept six of the 10 Army Greatest Inventions during the ceremony, making this the installation's most bountiful AGI ceremony to date.

Dr. Gerardo Melendez, director of the Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC), and representatives from the winning teams accepted the awards on behalf of ARDEC and its counterparts at PEO Ammunition and PEO Soldier.

During the ceremony, Army Chief Scientist Scott Fish compared the work of the winners to Steve Jobs' vision of elegant simplicity and ease of use for Apple products.

"They are all driven by a deep desire to make things better. They are not satisfied with a concept of utopia," Fish said. "They go beyond that. They make something real. They make it happen now."

"As you hear about the inventions tonight and applaud those people who made them happen, bear in mind a few phrases that have been used to describe Steve Jobs' contribution and unique approach, and recognize that they apply to our Army's greatest inventions as well—Elegant simplicity. Ease of use. Change the way we do what we do."

Heidi Shyu, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, recently returned from the Middle East and said improved equipment is making a difference to Soldiers.

"You are innovating and saving lives of Soldiers," Shyu said. "Anything you do to innovate and help our Soldiers is incredibly appreciated by the folks who are deployed. I am so impressed. Thank you for what you do for our Soldiers."

The Picatinny winners are:

• **40mm Infrared Illuminant Cartridge, M992:** Soldiers now have capabilities to engage the enemy far more effectively during night operations. The Army's new infrared illuminating cartridges/projectiles produce infrared light that is invisible to the naked eye, but is clearly visible through night vision devices that U.S. Soldiers use in Iraq and Afghanistan.

• **5.56mm M855A1 Enhanced Performance Round:** Since June, the Program Executive Office for Ammunition at Picatinny Arsenal has fielded

about 30 million new 5.56mm M855A1 Enhanced Performance Rounds in Afghanistan. The bullet has been redesigned and now features a larger steel penetrator on its tip. A notable feature of the EPR is a bullet with a copper core.

• **Green Eyes - Escalation of Force Kit Integration with the CROWS System:** The system emits a wide band of green light that temporarily disrupts a person's vision so that driving a vehicle or aiming a weapon becomes difficult if not impossible. One application would be to warn civilians away from checkpoints and other areas where their safety is at risk. At closer distances, the lasers provide an immediate, non-lethal capability to deter aggressive actions.

• **Jackal Explosive Hazard Pre-Detonation System:** The Jackal is an improvised explosive device, or IED, defeat system designed to remove the threat of IEDs against Soldiers, tactical vehicle platforms and overall mission success. In 2010, ARDEC developed and fielded Jackal to Soldiers throughout Iraq to help counter roadside bombs. In particular, Jackal neutralizes the lethal IED threats putting Soldiers at risk during route clearance and convoy missions.

Jackal keeps Soldiers outside the IEDs area of lethality and increases the survivability of vehicle platforms. Unlike its predecessors, the Jackal is designed to be modular and adaptable to new and emerging IED devices.

• **M240L 7.62mm Lightweight Medium Machine Gun:** The new machine gun reduces the weight of the existing M240B without compromising reliability.

"The titanium M240L represents a leap in weapons technology inspired by Soldier feedback," said Col. Douglas Tamilio, former Project Manager Soldier Weapons for PEO Soldier.

"The lessons learned from this program will undoubtedly benefit future weapons systems that will maintain our continued advantage on the battlefield."

• **Mortar Fire Control System - Dismounted:** The MFCS-D reduces time to fire first round from eight minutes during the day and 12 minutes at night to less than two minutes for both day and night.

The kit consists of ruggedized computers, battery power supplies, displays, navigation and pointing hardware, and associated mounting hardware.

The system enhances the responsiveness of the M120A1 120mm Towed Mortar System, enabling digital coordination of multiple systems and significantly reducing the time required to place, fire and move the weapon.



Photos by Todd Mozes



The Picatinny Chapter of Women in Defense sponsored the 9th Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon Oct. 4 at the Cannon Gates Conference Center. Guest speakers were, at left, Dr. Paul Friedman of the Rippe Breast Center at Morristown Medical Center; and Dr. Norman B. San Augustin, Chairman of the Breast Health Program at Saint Clare's Hospital.

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